

TRIBUTE TO MR. NAPOLEON  
FERNÁNDEZ GREGORY

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 1998*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Napoleon Fernández, an outstanding individual who has devoted his life to his family and to serving the community. Mr. Fernández celebrated his 80th birthday in the company of his family and friends on Saturday, August 22, 1998 at the Holy Cross Church Hall in the Bronx.

Mr. Fernández was born in the Dominican Republic. When he was in the 6th grade, he had to quit school to get a job in order to support his mother and two sisters. With the desire and absolute resolution to provide for his family, he became a barber at the age of 14 and 1 year later owned his own barbershop. Known as "Salon Figaro," the barbershop soon became the most famous in the Dominican Republic. He later entered show business and became an artistic entrepreneur who brought to the Dominican Republic famous musicians, such as Bobby Capo and Daniel Santos from Puerto Rico and Libertad Lamarque from Mexico. With his success blooming, he published a magazine called "Revistas Figaro."

In 1952, Mr. Fernández immigrated to the United States and obtained a barber's license within a year. He opened a shop on 112th Street and Broadway in Manhattan while still pursuing his musical career. He brought Armando Manzanero to the U.S. for the first time. He also went into the real state business and owned many buildings before losing them.

After his real state business failed because of the discrimination and the difficulties immigrants and minorities faced those days, he became a music teacher and gave music lessons in public schools in New York and in New Jersey. He was the first Hispanic PTA President from Brandeis High School and PS 145. He also played music with various artists such as the legendary Maestro Marco Rizzo and various bands such as Orchestras de Dominica, Chaparro and Alfredo Munar. Today, Mr. Fernández sings gospel music with the choir at Holy Cross Church and owns a baseball team, "The Boys of Figaro".

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fernández was very involved in politics and clearly believes that electoral politics is honorable public service. He was very active in campaigns for former Representative Herman Badillo, the first Puerto Rican to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Fernández could have been the first Dominican elected to the New York State Assembly but he chose not to run.

Mr. Fernández has been married to Carmen for 36 years. They have 8 children and 19 grandchildren who are all doing very well.

His life of courage and his contributions to our country make all of us, the immigrant community and his family, truly proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the family of Mr. Napoleon Fernández Gregory in wishing him a happy 80th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY ELDER

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 1998*

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, Larry Elder is the top radio personality in Los Angeles. His drive-time radio show is heard by about 400,000 people per day, and an average of 72,000 people tune in at any given time. In overall audience, he trails only a few of the nation's best-known, nationally-syndicated hosts. Why is Larry Elder so popular? Because he thoughtfully espouses a message which stresses the importance of accountability, individual responsibility, and hard-work as keys to success.

Larry grew up in South Central Los Angeles, and he is now the self-proclaimed "Sage of South Central." He attended law school at the University of Michigan, and later worked as an executive headhunter in Cleveland before his radio talents were discovered. Cleveland's loss has become Los Angeles's gain. Larry has appeared on KABC radio for nearly 5 years, and his popularity has consistently grown.

One of the reasons for Larry's devoted following is that his views are often contrary to those espoused by other nationally-recognized African-American leaders. He argues that big government and excessive regulation inhibit economic growth. He supports school choice as a way to ensure that the children of lower-income families have access to good schools. Larry argues that the biggest problem for minorities in America is not white racism, but illegitimacy, which is fostered by a welfare state that liberal leaders have fought to preserve and expand.

Larry has survived and thrived in America's second-largest radio market despite a lengthy boycott aimed at depriving his show of important advertisers and forcing him off the air. This experience prompted Forbes magazine recently to note that "Larry Elder is one of a group of black dissenters who are winning public attention. Nevertheless, the business community is nervous of them: They fear arousing the wrath of pressure groups that can muster street boycotts." Despite concerns among sponsors about the shopping habits of those who want Larry off the air, the boycott seems only to have increased his popularity, and he is now looking toward a syndicated radio show, and possibly a book and television contract. Soon, the rest of the United States will benefit from the insight and humor of my friend, Larry Elder.

Mr. Speaker, Larry Elder is thoughtful and entertaining, and even his staunchest critics concede that his ideas merit serious debate. I believe that if more Americans took to heart his message of self-reliance, accountability and equal treatment, we would make great strides toward empowering the weakest in our society to improve their own lives through better education, safer neighborhoods, and enhanced economic opportunity. In turn, it would allow us to focus public resources on those who truly need assistance.

IN HONOR OF THE CITIZENS OF  
TERRELL COUNTY ON THE OCCA-  
SION OF THE PRICKLY PEAR  
PACHANGA IN SANDERSON,  
TEXAS

**HON. HENRY BONILLA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 1998*

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly represent the "Cactus Capital of Texas." The Cactus Capital is located in Sanderson. The residents of Sanderson and Terrell County are equally proud of this designation as they come together on October 10, 1998 to celebrate the first Prickly Pear Pachanga.

Just ask any Texan and they will tell you that Texas is a unique state with a rich culture and heritage. Each region has special characteristics and for Terrell County this would be the cacti.

More than 100 species of cacti grow in Texas, more than any other state. The cacti is known for growing in extreme drought and heat conditions. It is a tough plant that grows in a tough region and I believe it is only fitting that this plant is honored by West Texans.

The citizens of Terrell County should be commended for hosting the Prickly Pear Pachanga. There is nothing that represents Texas better than friends, neighbors and a community coming together to celebrate. I encourage all Americans to come to Sanderson to attend the festival so they will be able to partake of good fellowship, food and family fun.

A TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF  
EAST HAMPTON, LONG ISLAND  
ON ITS 350TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 1998*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this hallowed chamber to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and my family, friends and neighbors in East Hampton, New York, as we celebrate the 350th anniversary celebration of this historic, seaside Long Island town.

Located at the eastern tip of Long Island's South Fork, East Hampton possesses a rich and storied history as one of this nation's earliest settlements, its 350-year legacy intertwined with the history of this great nation and the rest of Long Island as well.

East Hampton boasts the United States' first public works project, the Montauk Lighthouse commissioned by George Washington. Sag Harbor, on the town's western border with Southampton, served as home port for many great whaling ships during the heyday of that long since faded industry. Because it still possesses much of the natural beauty and idyllic scenery as it did in the 17th century, the Village of East Hampton has served as America's preeminent resort community for the wealthy for the past 120 years, a summertime magnet for the world's artistic, business and social elite.

The story begins in 1648, when a small band of Puritan settlers from Lynn, Massachusetts pushed through the woods of the South

Fork to settle East Hampton. The town was founded on April 29 with the purchase of 31,000 acres from the Montaukett Indians. The settlers built their huts and cottages along what is now Main Street, and named their new home Maidstone after the English village they left behind. Within a few years, 37 families called Maidstone home.

Like other pioneer towns of the Colonial era, East Hampton grew quickly, attracting many artisans, fishermen, craftsmen and farmers who were overwhelmed by the area's bountiful waters and rich farmland. Soon, the town branched out to the grazing lands of Wainscott, the meadows of Acobonac, the fishing port of Montauk and the harbor at Northwest.

My colleagues, the spirit and handiwork of the original East Hampton residents still lives in the many venerable homes and schools that today stand in the village. Built in 1650, Home Sweet Home is the childhood residence of actor-playwright John Howard Payne, who wrote the famous song the house is named after. Next door is the Mulford House, built in 1680 and also one of Long Island's oldest structures. The Hunting Inn encloses the home built in 1699 for the town's second minister, and the Clinton Academy became New York State's first college prep school when it was established in 1784.

The Main Street home of artist Thomas Moran, whose large canvasses of Yellowstone and Yosemite that helped create the National Park System, is on the National Register of Historic Places. Adjacent to the Moran home is the "Summer White House" used by President John Tyler and his wife, the former Julia Gardiner of East Hampton.

While America's westward expansion continued unabated for the first century, East Hampton grew slowly over its first 200 years. That changed dramatically in the 1870's, when well-to-do New Yorkers looking to escape the city in summer, and artists and writers who were just looking to escape the city, simultaneously discovered East Hampton's bucolic ambience. By the 1880's, East Hampton was a flourishing resort for the financially and artistically gifted. When the Long Island Railroad was extended to East Hampton in 1895, the village's population was fully into its annual summer explosion.

Comprised of the incorporated Village of East Hampton and several smaller hamlets, each of East Hampton's communities has its own district history. The fishing village of Amagansett was home to many great whaling captains of centuries past, including the legendary Captain Josh Edwards. In 1942, an alert U.S. Coast Guardsman spotted four German spies, launched in a rubber boat by a Nazi sub, landing at Amagansett. After a 15-day manhunt, all four would-be saboteurs were captured, and two more subsequently executed for their crimes.

Springs is considered by many the artistic heart of the Hamptons. Its most famous resident was the sublime American artist Jackson Pollock. Located on Acobonac Harbor, the denizens of Springs were the original "Bonackers," formerly a derisive term, like calling some one a hick. Today, all East Hamptonites proudly call themselves Bonackers. Few of Long Island's many hamlets have retained their historical charm as well as Wainscott, in the southwest corner of East Hampton. Where else do students still go to school in a one-room schoolhouse.

There is no area of Long Island that has changed less since English settlers first landed here nearly 400 years ago than Gardiners Island. Located in Gardiner's Bay between the North and South Fork of Long Island, the Island was purchased by Lion Gardiner from Wyandanch, the sachem or chief of the Montaukett Indians, in 1639. Today, the crescent shaped isle remains in the Gardiner family's possession, in the same pristine condition as when Lion acquired it.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and emotion that I stand here today and share East Hampton's 350-year anniversary with my Congressional colleagues. Though still just a small, seaside town on the East End of Long Island, East Hampton boasts a proud legacy of achievement and fame that places it among the world well-known communities. I congratulate everyone of my friends and neighbors as they celebrate this historic anniversary.

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP:  
CHARACTER, THE ESSENTIAL  
ELEMENT

**HON. PAUL MCHALE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 1998*

Mr. MCHALE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to insert the following speech, which I gave before the Bethlehem Rotary Club on September 2, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP: CHARACTER, THE  
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT

My friends, neighbors and today considering the message I'm going to deliver in just a couple of moments, most especially, my fellow citizens—

I began preparing this speech focusing on character and politics about a month ago. I was watching TV one day when a respected journalist began to discuss the challenges and allegations confronting the President. She said with a note of frustration in her voice, I'm paraphrasing slightly, "We hire public officials like plumbers—to get the job done. We don't expect them to be role models or moral icons." "Character," she finally said, "is largely irrelevant."

I listened to that statement and realized that I disagreed with it so profoundly, so deeply, that it was so contrary to everything that had brought me to public service two decades ago, I know that at some point in some forum, I wanted to respond—not merely to rebut her statement, certainly not to challenge her personally, but to present a very different point of view. Her opinion, in my judgement, is directly at odds with the most important lessons of American history. We do expect our public officials to be role models and moral leaders. That expectation is neither naive nor unrealistic.

Theodore Roosevelt was one of the truly great presidents of the United States, a man whom I admire tremendously, a man normally considered one of the five greatest presidents in American history. In some ways it's unfortunate that President Theodore Roosevelt has become almost a caricature because he was a man of extraordinary substance. That caricature often misleads us in terms of the lessons that he had to teach. Let me read to you, if I may, a quote from Theodore Roosevelt on the subject of character and politics: "Sometimes, I hear our countrymen abroad saying, 'Oh you mustn't judge us by our politicians.' I always wanted

to interrupt and answer, "But you *must* judge us by our politicians, not merely by their ability, but by their ideals and the measure in which they realize these ideals, by their attitude in private life and much more by their attitude in public life both as regards their conception of their duties toward their country and their conception of the duty of that country embodied in its government towards its own people and toward foreign nations.""

He continued: "Each community has the kind of politicians it deserves. . . . The most important thing for you to know is how the man you choose will conduct himself in the office to which he is elected. Now to know this, you must not only know his views and his principles, but you must also know how well he practices and corresponds to those principles. This is the all important fact. Far more important than the candidate's words is the estimate you are able to put upon the closeness with which his deeds will correspond to his words."

Roosevelt spoke in the language of his time. He is gender specific to "men" and I would, if I could, edit his transcript and insert "men and women" but the basic lesson remains true. He continued: "What you need in a man who represents you is that he shall show the same qualities of honesty, courage and common sense that in private life make the type of man you are willing to have as a neighbor, that you are willing to work for, or to have work for you. While the private life of a public man is of secondary importance, it is certainly a mistake to assume that it is of no importance. Of course excellence in private conduct, that is domestic morality, punctuality in the payment of debts, being a good husband and father, being a good neighbor, do not, taken together, furnish adequate reason for reposing confidence in a man as a public servant. But lack of these qualities certainly does establish a presumption against any public man. One function of a great public leader should be to exert an influence upon the community at large, especially upon the young men of a community. And therefore, it is idle to say that those interested in the perpetuity of good government should not take into account the fact of a public man's example being something to follow or to avoid, even in matters not connected with his direct public services. No man can be of any service to his state, no man can amount to anything from the standpoint of usefulness to the community at large unless first and foremost, he is a decent man in the close relations of life. . . . Jefferson said that the whole art of government consists in being honest. . . . You cannot be unilaterally honest. The minute that a man is dishonest along certain lines, even though he pretends to be honest along other lines, you can be sure that it is only a pretense, it is only expediency. And you cannot trust to the mere sense of expediency to hold a man straight under heavy pressure." (emphasis added)

That was a lengthy quote. It consumed a significant amount of time, but it also reflected a significant lesson in history. We can't separate a president's character from his performance in office. Indeed, what he does in office finds its initial motivation in the wellspring of his character. There is no such thing as character "compartmentalization."

The Constitutional powers that were assigned to the Presidency were shaped, in part, by the expectation of what type of person would be elected Chief Executive. Let me quote from a book by William Peters, *A More Perfect Union: the Story of the Constitutional Convention*. Fifty-five delegates at various times over the summer of 1787 gathered in Philadelphia (not very far from